16. (New)   A method of managing a multimedia file managing said multimedia file with index information, multimedia data of said multimedia file being able to be managed in each prescribed management unit, including the steps of:

generating said index information including a source identifier expressing a source having one or more of said management units associated with said multimedia file as a title frame, positions of a leading frame and tail frame of said title frame in said source, and a position of a reference frame for decoding said leading frame; and

recording said index information onto a recording medium, attaching said index information to said multimedia file.

17. (New)   The managing method for a multimedia file according to claim 16, wherein said step of generating index information includes a step of generating a plurality of pieces of index information and said recording step includes a step of recording said plurality of pieces of index information and information for specifying the number of said pieces of index information onto a recording medium, attaching said plurality of pieces of index information and said information for specifying the number of said pieces of index information to said multimedia file.

18. (New)   The managing method for a multimedia file according to claim 16, further including the steps of:

causing a user to specify one or more of management units associated with said multimedia file as a title frame; and

generating second index information in which a bit stream obtained by

encoding a specified title frame is embedded,

wherein said recording step including a step of recording said index information and said second index information onto a recording medium together with flags indicating kinds of said index information and said second index information, respectively, attaching said index information and said second index information to said multimedia file together with said flags indicating kinds of said index information and said second index information.

19. (New)   A managing method for a multimedia file managing said multimedia file with index information, multimedia data of said multimedia file being able to be managed in each prescribed management unit, including the steps of:

causing a user to specify one or more of said management units associated with said multimedia file as a title frame;

generating index information in which a bit stream obtained by encoding a specified title frame and encoding information indicating a system for the encoding are embedded; and

recording said index information onto a recording medium, attaching said index information to said multimedia file.

20. (New)   The managing method for a multimedia file according to claim 19, wherein said prescribed management unit is a frame of an image.

21. (New)   The managing method for a multimedia file according to claim 19,

wherein

said step of generating index information includes a step of generating a plurality of pieces of index information and

said recording step includes a step of recording said plurality of pieces of index information arid information for specifying the number of said pieces of index information onto a recording medium, attaching said plurality of pieces of index information and said information for specifying the number of said pieces of index information to said multimedia file.

22. (New)   A managing apparatus for a multimedia file managing said multimedia file with index information, multimedia data of said multimedia file being able to be managed in each prescribed management unit, including:

an index information generating section generating index information including a source identifier expressing a source having one or more of said management units associated with said multimedia file as a title frame, positions of a leading frame and tail frame of said title frame in said source and a position of a reference frame for decoding said leading frame; and

an index information attaching section recording said index information onto a recording medium, attaching said index information to said multimedia file.

23. (New)   The managing apparatus for a multimedia file according to claim 22, wherein said multimedia file is an image file.

24. (New)   The managing apparatus for a multimedia file according to claim 23, wherein said prescribed management unit is a frame of an image.

25. (New)   The managing apparatus for a multimedia file according to claim 22, wherein said index information generating section generates a plurality of pieces of index information and

said index information attaching section records said plurality of pieces of index information and information for specifying the number of said pieces of index information onto a recording medium, attaching said plurality of pieces of index information pieces and said information for specifying the number of said index information pieces to said multimedia file.

26. (New)   The managing apparatus for a multimedia file according to claim 22, wherein said index information generating section generates said index information including said source identifier specifying a title frame having one or more of said management units in said multimedia file, positions of a leading frame and tail frame of said title frame and a position of a reference frame for decoding said leading frame.

27. (New)   The managing apparatus for a multimedia file according to claim 22, wherein said index information generating section generates said index information including said source identifier specifying a title frame having one or more of said management units in a second multimedia file different from said

multimedia file, positions of a leading frame and tail frame of said title frame and a

position of a reference frame for decoding said leading frame.

28. (New)   The managing apparatus for a multimedia file according to claim

22, further including: an index information specifying section causing a user to

specify one or more of said management units associated with said multimedia file as

a title frame,

wherein

said index information generating section generating second index information

in which a bit stream obtained by encoding a specified title frame is embedded and

said index information recording section recording said index information and

said second index information onto a recording medium together with flags indicating

kinds of said index information and said second index information, respectively,

attaching said index information and said second index information to said

multimedia file together with said flags indicating kinds of said index information and

said second index information.

29. (New)   A managing apparatus for a multimedia file managing said

multimedia file with index information, multimedia data of said multimedia file being

able to be managed in each prescribed management unit, including:

a frame specifying section forcing a user to specify and extract one or more of

said management units associated with said multimedia file as a title frame;

and

an index information attaching section recording said index information onto a

recording medium, attaching said index information to said multimedia file.

30. (New) The managing apparatus for a multimedia file according to claim

29, wherein said multimedia file is an image file.

31. (New) The managing apparatus for a multimedia file according to claim

30, wherein said prescribed management unit is a frame of an image.

32. (New) The managing apparatus for a multimedia file according to claim

29, wherein said index information generating section generates a plurality of pieces

of index information and

said index information attaching section records said plurality of pieces of

index information and information for specifying the number of said pieces of index

information onto a recording medium, attaching said plurality of pieces of index

information pieces and said information for specifying the number of said index

information pieces to said multimedia file.

33. (New) A managing method for a multimedia file managing said

multimedia file with index information, including the steps of:

generating index information including a source identifier expressing a still

picture file different from said multimedia file; and

recording said index information onto a recording medium, attaching said